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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Thomas D. Petite, et al.

Serial No.: 09/925,393

Filed: 8/9/01

Group Art Unit: 2857

Examiner: Hal D. Wachsman

Docket No. 81607-1180

For: **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR
PROVIDING REMOTE MONITORING
OF ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION FOR AN ELECTRIC METER**

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The non-final Office Action mailed March 20, 2003 (Paper No. 6) has been carefully considered. In response thereto, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to deposit account no. 20-0778.